

**City Council
City Clerk**

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March 2, 2011

The Honorable James Webb
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Warner
459A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Randy Forbes
2438 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Addendum to Support for Funding Letter dated February 21, 2011,
Support for Funding City of Hopewell's Projects

TO THE HONORABLE SENATORS WEBB and WARNER, and
CONGRESSMAN FORBES:

The City of Hopewell requests your support and cooperation with respect to funding several critical infrastructure projects. According to the Commission on Local Governments, the City of Hopewell is ranked 18th among the most fiscally stressed localities in the Commonwealth. This economic development initiative would provide a positive boost to the City's economic growth and outlook to include sustainment strategies for the future. These projects include:

(1) Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility/Relocate Primary Plant/Install New Line to Fort Lee

The City of Hopewell requests \$2 M in funding support for the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility/Relocate Primary Plant/Install New Line to Fort Lee. The City of Hopewell's Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility (HRWTF) is a 50 million gallon per day plant designed to treat the combined industrial/domestic wastewaters in our region. The plant must upgrade and expand to accommodate future flows expected from BRAC activities (Fort Lee) and also must reduce its total nitrogen discharge into the James River as a part of the Chesapeake Bay Act-requirements.

The combined total capital costs of the expansion are \$95 M; design work is well under way and much of this project is "shovel ready." In addition, a new trunk sewer is needed to provide future service to Fort Lee with its cost estimated at \$13million.

(2) Cedar Level Road Improvements

The City respectfully requests \$2 M under the Transportation, Community and System Preservation account in the FY 2011 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill to widen and extend Cedar Level Road.

March 2, 2011

Addendum to Support for Funding Letter dated February 21, 2011, Support for Funding City of Hopewell's Projects

Page -2-

The total estimated cost of the project is \$8 M, and the City will work with the state to provide the required 20% match. The City of Hopewell has been working with Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) on accelerating this long planned project. In addition, the City is conscious of the importance of traffic calming measures to ensure a Pedestrian friendly environment along with other applicable safety improvements.

The 1.2 mile project was recently split in halves to deal with the VDOT budgeting and funding gap in their Six-Year Road Program Funding. The Phase-1 Section needs a small amount of additional funding based on previous years' allocations, but the Phase-2 Section (designed at the same time) would certainly be ready in short order if funds were allocated from a new source.

Cedar Level Road is ready to move forward. The entire road improvement project, Phase 1 & Phase 2, could be under construction in 12-16 months or perhaps sooner if pushed. The recently revised (2.06.09) VDOT Six- Year Program does not provide the appropriations needed to move forward on both phases of this 15-year-old project.

The project improvements will replace a poorly aligned, unsafe, and very substandard 2-lane road section with a modern 4-lane road section. Chronic storm drainage problems are corrected as part of the proposed improvements. The additional travel and turn lanes will accommodate the rapid increase in cross city traffic due to the expansion of Fort Lee, which lies just south of City's border.

In 1994 the City declared Cedar Level Road to be the number one priority project. The design processes began in 1995. In 1998 the project value engineering panel completed their final reviews & recommendations. The Public Hearing was held in June of 1999. No major objections were voiced at the public hearing. In 2000, the project was approved for corridor Right-of-Way acquisition. By 2003 all the necessary rights-of-way were acquired by VDOT. Finally, in June of 2003 the project was approved for utility relocation. The aforementioned are all considered major hurdles and accomplishments in the project development process.

With the advent of Fort Lee Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) Expansion Project and a new Ethanol Plant in the City, this would be a major step forward in alleviating the anticipated stress and safety concerns associated with increased road traffic and associated transportation issues.

(3) Dredging of the City Marina and further development of the Boardwalk

The City of Hopewell requests support for dredging of the City Marina and Boardwalk in concert with Petersburg National Battlefield Park Service. The

March 2, 2011

Addendum to Support for Funding Letter dated February 21, 2011, Support for Funding City of Hopewell's Projects

Page -3-

project will serve as an educational (environmental, historical and recreational) amenity that provides access to the riverfront for all citizens of the community and the region. We also support the development of trails for parks and recreation facilities that enhances and improves the quality of life. This is a regional project called "The Appomattox River Federal Navigation Project" and is under the host of the City of Petersburg and administered by the Army Corps of Engineers. Affected localities include Petersburg, Colonial Heights and the counties of Prince George and Chesterfield. The City of Hopewell requests funding support for the hydraulic dredging on the site.

(4) The National Park Service Bluff Stabilization Project

The City of Hopewell requests funding support for the National Park Service Bluff Stabilization Project which connects the Boardwalk with the regional trail system to enhance and improve the quality of life. The City has worked with Petersburg National Battlefield to design a trail and canoe launch into the Bluff Stabilization Project. The first phase estimated to cost \$3.5M, is scheduled to receive National Park Service Funding in 2014. Planning, design and compliance of Phase 2 is largely complete and the project could begin as early as 2012 if funding were available. In addition to directly contributing to a regional trail system, the Bluff Stabilization Project will preserve and protect Hopewell's rich archaeological resources and history. The site has a tremendous history dating from prehistoric times to the modern day but is at risk of being lost forever due to erosion.

(5) Partnership between the City of Hopewell and the National Park Service to Renovate and Restore the Hunter House

The City of Hopewell requests funding support for the proposed partnership between the City and the Petersburg National Battlefield to renovate and restore the Hunter House to serve as a City Museum and Visitor Contact Station for the National Park Service. The City has established a strong working relationship with Petersburg National Battlefield and is interested in maximizing all available resources to benefit the community, promote regional history and prepare for the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War. Renovation of the Hunter House into a City Museum is an excellent idea. The museum would provide a permanent residence for various historical artifacts and promote understanding of past history in order to inform the present and create a better quality of life. The Museum would house historical collections of maps, photographic images, artifacts and exhibits to include interactive technologies.

The Hopewell City Council would like to thank you in advance for your assistance and for supporting the interest of the City of Hopewell. I look forward to working with you and your staff on these critical infrastructure projects for our City.

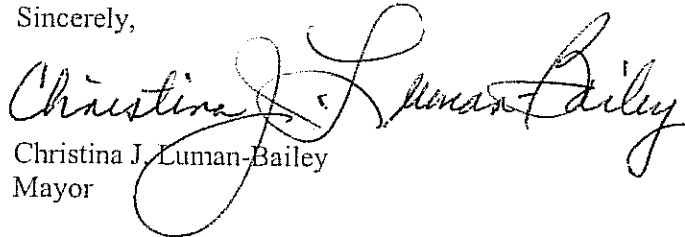
March 2, 2011

Addendum to Support for Funding Letter dated February 21, 2011, Support for
Funding City of Hopewell's Projects

Page -4-

Should you have any questions or require assistance, please feel free to contact
our Washington Representative, Mr. Jim Davenport, at (703) 841-0626 or
Herbert Bragg, Director, Intergovernmental & Public Affairs at (804) 541-2270
or email: hbragg@hopewellva.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Christina J. Luman-Bailey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christina" and last name "Bailey" being more prominent than the middle initial "J".

Christina J. Luman-Bailey
Mayor

CJB:HB:amr